Italian curse words range from mild interjections to strong vulgarities, with common terms including **Cazzo** (dick/fuck), **Merda** (shit), **Stronzo/a** (asshole), and **Coglione** (testicle/idiot/jerk), often combined in phrases like **Vaffanculo** (fuck off), **Figlio di puttana** (son of a bitch), or expressions of annoyance like **Che palle** (what a pain/balls).

Common & Strong Insults

- **Cazzo**: Dick; often used as "fuck!" or in "what the fuck" (Che cazzo dici?).
- **Merda**: Shit.
- **Stronzo/a**: Asshole, jerk (male/female).
- **Coglione**: Testicle; used for idiot, dumbass, jerk.
- **Figlio di puttana**: Son of a bitch.
- **Testa di cazzo**: Dickhead.
- **Pezzo di merda**: Piece of shit.

Expressions of Annoyance/Shock

- **Vaffanculo**: Fuck off/Go to hell.
- **Che palle!**: What balls! (meaning "What a pain!" or "This sucks!").
- **Porca miseria/puttana**: Mild "damn it!" or "holy shit!".
- **Accidenti!**: Damn!/Darn! (milder).
- **Mannaggia**: Damn/Darn.

Other Insults/Slang

- **Cretino/a**: Idiot, jerk.
- **Sfigato/a**: Loser.
- **Rompipalle/Rompicoglioni**: Pain in the ass/Ball-breaker (annoying person).
- **Leccaculo**: Ass-licker/Brown-noser.

Usage Notes

- Context is crucial; "cazzo" and anatomical terms are very strong.

- Terms like "Madonna" (used with shock/anger, like "Oh my God!") are common but religious, as noted by The Intrepid Guide, who discuss common Italian swear words and expressions.
- "Minchia" is a Sicilian variation of "cazzo".